In the claims:

1.   (currently amended) A secure data entry peripheral device <u>configured as a secure keyboard device</u> in a computer system, said device comprising:

means for at least one of entry, collection and reading of data information;

controller means for encoding<u>/decoding</u> said data information for presentation to the computer system~; and

means associated with said controller for processing said encoded data information by performing thereon at least one operation amongst operations including encryption, decryption, data manipulation and non-volatile storage,

said processed encoded data information ~~providing a secure transaction when~~ <u>being</u> transmitted within the computer system <u>as encrypted data</u>, and ~~when~~ <u>later</u> decrypted and decoded for use at a remote location~<u>,</u>

<u>wherein said controller means is an encryption unit and said processing means comprises an electronic device capable of encrypting/decrypting and storing data entered via said secure keyboard device,</u>

<u>wherein said encryption unit and said electronic device are embedded within siad secure keyboard device as a single integrated device,</u>

<u>and wherein said single integrated device contains non-volatile memory.</u>

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12.   (original) The device of claim 1 wherein said single
       integrated device includes an internal EEPROM memory
       as an integral part of said device, which stores
       secure information.

13.   (original) The device of claim 1 wherein said single
       integrated   device   includes   secure,   protected
       encryption keys and data as an internal and integral
       non-removable element.

14.   (original) The device of claim 1 wherein said single
       integrated device further comprises a secure command
       interpreter which operates to manipulate commands.

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15. (currently amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said single integrated device ~~is capable of~~ <u>comprises</u> <u>means for</u> preventing unauthorized use of software programs.

16. (deleted)

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21. (deleted)

22. (currently amended) A method of providing secure data entry in a computer system, said method comprising the steps of:

 performing at least one of entry, collection and reading of data information via a standard data entry device configured as a secure keyboard device;

 encoding said data information within said standard data entry device for presentation to the computer system~~,~~<u>;</u> and

 processing, within said standard data entry device, said encoded data information by performing thereon at least one operation amongst operations including encryption, decryption, data manipulation and non-volatile storage,

 said processed encoded data information ~~providing a secure transaction when~~ <u>being</u> transmitted within the computer system <u>as encrypted data,</u> and ~~when~~ <u>later</u> decrypted and decoded for use at a remote location<u>,</u>

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wherein said encoding step is performed by an encryption unit and said processing step is performed by an electronic device capable of encrypting/decrypting and storing data entered via said encryption unit,

wherein said encryption unit and said electronic device comprise a single integrated device, and

wherein said single integrated device does not use removable media such as a Smartcard, security token and the like contains non-volatile memory.

23.   (deleted)

24.   (deleted)

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